

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

28 December 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/TSD/PTG/SD

SUBJECT : Free-Fall Tests of Primed TNT Cartridges

1. In order to determine the practicality of free-falling TNT cartridges from low flying aircraft, it is requested that you determine the feasibility of conducting such tests at [redacted]. If it is determined that such tests are feasible, the following action will be undertaken at Isolation:

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- a. Prime 100 sticks of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x8" TNT sticks each with one J-1 non-electric blasting cap and six inches of time fuse. Tape one packet of paper stemmed fusee matches (in cellophane wrapper) to each stick. Appropriately mark each assembly with reflectorized tape or other means of easy identification.
- b. At an altitude of 500 to 700 feet and at an air speed of at least 120 mph drop 10 each TNT stick assemblies from an aircraft. These sticks will not be tied together but should be thrown or dropped as a loose bundle. If no sticks detonate on hitting the ground, drop the remaining sticks in the same general location and in multiples determined by the airplane commander or his designee.
- c. If one or more of the first ten sticks detonate on striking the ground no further tests need be run and the remaining 90 sticks can be returned for disassembly or other appropriate disposition.
- d. After dropping, sufficient personnel should be available to look for and account for all sticks dropped. These sticks will be checked for suitability for further use, after which all residue will be disposed of by burning or other appropriate means.

[redacted]

CHIEF
TSD/Engineering Branch

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DD/P/TSD/EB/RDT:mc

Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - Explosives, Gen.
1 - EB Chrono

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